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OLL 85-3554
14 November 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Secretary

FROM: Director, Office of Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: Senator Durenberger's Comments to Recent SIS Course on the Congress

1. I've touched base with [] OTE Consultant for this course; [] Course Director; [] - a student in the course and [] The Senator spent over an hour with them - more than any previous Agency training group.

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2. Major relevant themes/comments:

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- Oversight Members are first of all politicians who must respond to both constituents and the media: survival depends on them.
- Responding to a direct question as to whether the DCI should be a political appointee, he answered, "Yes." There is considerable advantage in having the ear of the President.
- He and all Members hate to be surprised by press accounts when the Agency could have alerted them. However, CA reporting to the Committee has improved.
- Much time was devoted to his concept of a National Intelligence Strategy, to be developed by the DCI, but based on direct policy level requirements and priorities.

3. Summarizing Bernie McMahon's comments to me this A.M. on The Washington Post story:

- "You ask us not to believe everything in the Post; we ask the same of you."
- Nothing the Chairman said was inconsistent with what he has been saying about the need for a long-range intelligence strategy, determined by policymakers, articulated by McFarlane rather than the DCI. The comment about knowledge of the Soviet Union was in that context: Gorbachev represents an opportunity for a new long-range look at Soviet economic policy, arms control initiatives, et al. It was not a criticism of CIA product.

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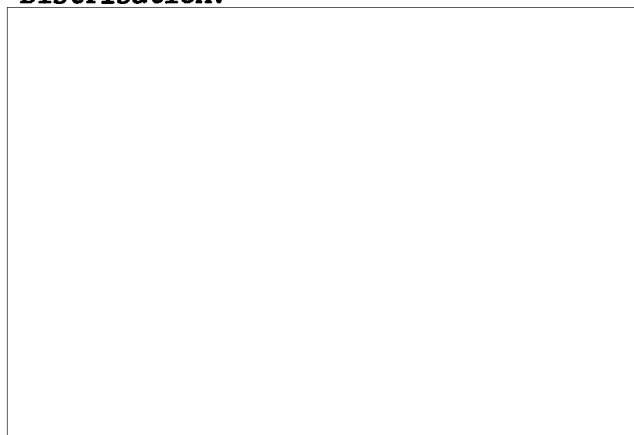


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**cc: DDCI
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